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Committee for Programme and Coordination
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9 June to 3 July 2003
Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on the work of its forty-third session

Rapporteur: Mr. Jerry **Kramer** (Canada)

Addendum

Programme questions: proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Item 4 (a)

Programme 6
Peaceful uses of outer space

1. At its 14th meeting, on 19 June 2003, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 6, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 (A/58/6 (Sect. 6)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced section 6 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. The view was expressed that outer space activities had a great potential to contribute to improving our lives and protecting the Earth's environment. The view was also expressed that it was very important to approach international cooperation activities from a long-term, global perspective in order to make contributions that would benefit all of society, and that people everywhere, not only those living in countries that conduct them, should enjoy the benefits of space activities. In this context, it was stated that priority should be given to activities related to expected accomplishment (b) in table 6.5.

4. It was noted that space technology is important in bridging the gap between developed and developing countries by exposing developing countries to the most

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advanced technology available. In this regard, the view was expressed that the question of increased social and economic benefits for developing countries resulting from the implementation of some of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), especially in the areas of desertification and prevention and assistance in relation to diseases and disasters, stated as expected accomplishment (c) of table 6.5, also needed the balanced attention of the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

5. Disappointment was expressed that the Office did not propose the discontinuation of any outputs for the biennium 2004-2005. The Committee was informed that the Office had indeed reviewed and identified a number of outputs to be discontinued.

Conclusions and recommendations

6. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 6, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.**

7. **The Committee also recommended that the Office for Outer Space Affairs continue to review its programme of work and, where applicable, make further proposals on the possible streamlining of meetings for consideration by the relevant intergovernmental bodies.**